

Applicants: David M. Stern, et al.  
U.S. Serial No.: 08/997,464  
Filed: December 23, 1997  
Page 2

In the Abstract of the Disclosure:

Please delete lines 6-35 on original page 34 of the specification and insert the following:

A2  
--The present invention provides a method for evaluating the ability of a compound to inhibit neurotoxicity which comprises (a) contacting a cell which expresses a receptor for advanced glycation end product protein and a mutant presenilin-2 protein in a cell culture and the compound; (b) determining the level of cell death in the cell culture; and (c) comparing the level of cell death determined in step (b) with the amount determined in the absence of the compound so as to evaluate the ability of the compound to inhibit neurotoxicity. The invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound capable of inhibiting neurotoxicity and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.--

In the claims:

✓ Please cancel claims 6-10, 13-33 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or divisional application. Please amend claims 1, 2, 3 and 5 as follows:

--1. (Amended) A method for evaluating the ability of a compound to inhibit neurotoxicity which comprises:

- AB  
(a) contacting a cell which expresses a receptor for advanced glycation end product protein and a mutant presenilin-2 protein in a cell culture and the compound, wherein the mutant